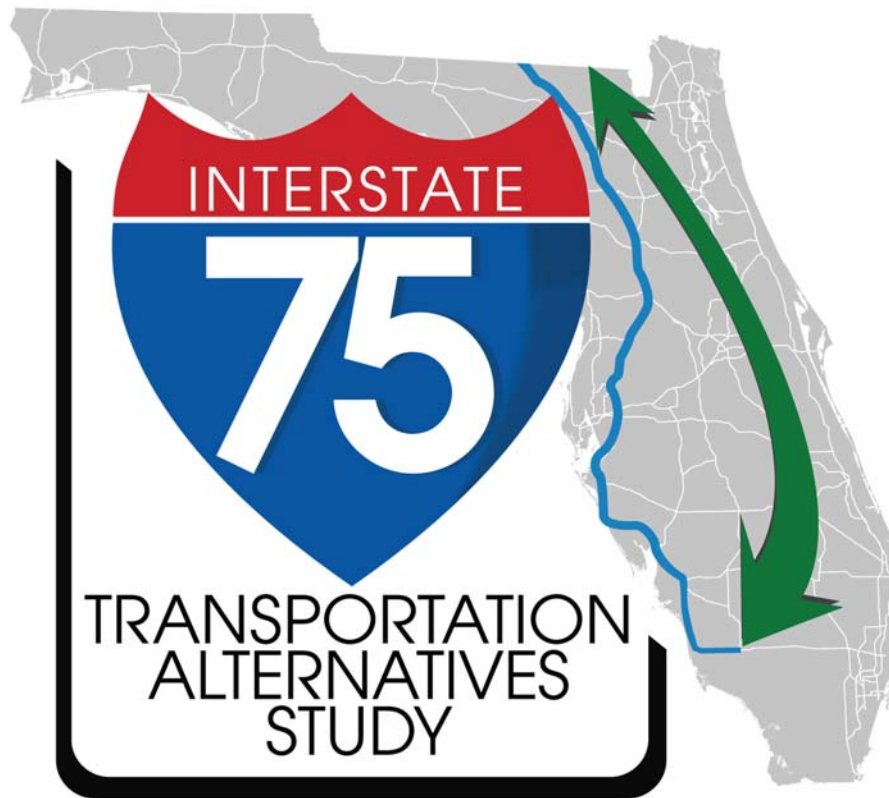


# Project Information Packet



**Systems Planning Office  
February 2012**



# Project Summary

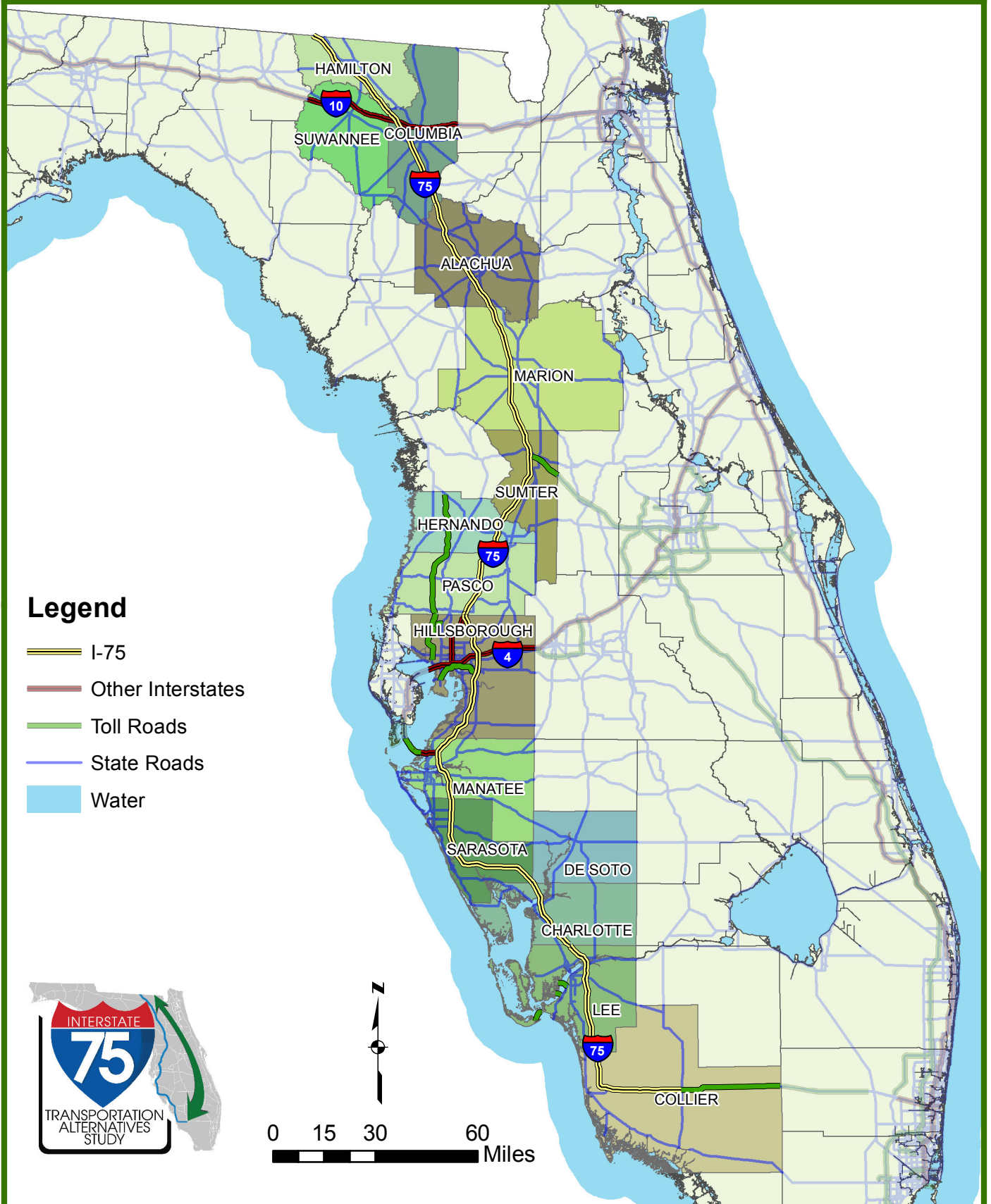
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The I-75 Transportation Alternatives Study was initiated by the Florida Department of Transportation Systems Planning Office and is summarized as follows:

- **Study Purpose** – The purpose of the study is to assess the travel demand and freight moving along the I-75 corridor in the State of Florida against four measures: transportation, emergency management, homeland security, and economic development. Additionally, the study will identify a range of strategies to alleviate congestion, facilitate emergency and security response, and foster economic development in the state of Florida. The end result of the study will be the I-75 Alternative Transportation Alternatives Study document to include an analysis of the physical environment, demographic elements, mobility and traffic elements, emergency and security response, and economic development, along with a summary of mobility strategies for future consideration for the I-75 corridor to alleviate congestion, facilitate emergency and security responses, and foster economic development.
- **Study Corridor** – The study corridor under evaluation includes 15 counties through north central and southwest Florida, as identified in **Figure 1**. The study corridor extends 390 miles from the Florida/Georgia state line in Hamilton County to SR 29 at the western end of Alligator Alley in Collier County.

**Figure 1**

## I-75 Alternatives Study Area





## Project Team

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The I-75 Transportation Alternatives Study will include coordination and consultation with the following agencies and organizations:

- Florida Department of Law Enforcement;
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection;
- Florida Division of Emergency Management;
- Florida Department of Economic Opportunity;
- Enterprise Florida;
- FDOT Districts Two, Five, Seven, and One;
- FDOT Modal Offices (Airports, Rail, Seaports, and Transit);
- Other FDOT Offices (Safety, Traffic Operations, and Policy Planning);
- Florida Metropolitan Planning Organizations Advisory Council (MPOAC);
- Four Regional Planning Councils along the I-75 Corridor;
  - North Central Florida RPC;
  - Withlacoochee RPC;
  - Tampa Bay RPC;
  - Southwest RPC;
- Nine Metropolitan Planning Organizations along the I-75 Corridor; and,
  - Gainesville MTPO;
  - Ocala/Marion County TPO;
  - Lake-Sumter MPO;
  - Hernando County MPO;
  - Hillsborough County MPO;
  - Sarasota/Manatee MPO;
  - Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO;
  - Lee County MPO;
  - Collier County MPO;
- Four Counties in RACEC areas not represented by an MPO.
  - Desoto County;
  - Columbia County;
  - Suwannee County;
  - Hamilton County;

The Florida Department of Transportation Systems Planning Office is the lead office coordinating all study activities. The nine Metropolitan Planning Organizations and four Regional Planning Councils located along the study corridor are key organizations involved in transportation planning activities. The four FDOT Districts located along the corridor have existing working relationships with both the MPOs and RPCs and will continue to serve as the key points of contact between the MPOs, RPCs, and the study team. Up to date information regarding the progress of the I-75 Transportation Alternatives Study can always be found at [www.I-75Alternatives.com](http://www.I-75Alternatives.com).



# Work Plan

- **Study Work Tasks and Products** – The I-75 Transportation Alternatives Study includes three primary work tasks, as summarized below.
  - **Task 1 – Agency Consultation and Communication** – this task includes coordination and consultation with all study participants at three key points during the study process:
    - Data Collection
      - *Fall 2011*
    - Needs Plan Review and Alternatives Development
      - *January through March 2012*
    - Draft Corridor Plan Review
      - *April 2012 through May 2012*
  - **Task 2 – Technical Analysis and Documentation** – this task includes data collection, corridor analysis, and development of a corridor needs plan. The technical analysis will be conducted at a high level and will primarily rely on more in depth studies recently completed or currently underway on segments of I-75. The study team will rely on partner agencies to provide information and data from these studies to incorporate into the I-75 Transportation Alternatives Study;
  - **Task 3 – Alternative Corridor Plan Development** – this task includes development of the draft and final I-75 Transportation Alternatives Study document, which will include the following:
    - A summary of alternative transportation options for future consideration for the I-75 corridor to alleviate congestion, facilitate emergency and security responses, and foster economic development;
    - A corridor analysis summary consisting of a discussion of the physical environment, demographic elements, mobility elements, emergency and security response, economic development benefits and a financial analysis. This summary will be developed using the corridor needs plan developed as part of Task 2; and,
    - An overview of the needs and strategies for consideration for the I-75 Corridor.